

Chair, Families & Human Services Committee Appropriations Committee: Chair, Family Independence Agency, Commerce Labor & Economic Development, Capitol Outlay, Higher Education

APRIL 2005

HARDIMAN PUSHES EFFORT TO HELP MICHIGAN PHARMACIES

Legislation introduced by Hardiman would enable Michigan pharmacies to be able to better to compete in today's marketplace by participating in mail-order prescription services. Hardiman's legislation would allow "centralized prescription processing" services, which means one pharmacy would be able to fill a request from another pharmacy to fill a prescription. His legislation, Senate Bill 352, would also eliminate the ban on mail-order services for Michigan based pharmacies.

The goal of the legislation is to level the playing field by allowing Michigan based pharmacies to participate in mail-order services. Earlier this year the Michigan Senate passed a bill that would allow for mail-order prescription services, but did not lift the ban on Michigan based companies, Hardiman's bill takes that extra step.

Senate Bill 352 has been referred to the Senate Health Policy Committee.

EARLY INTERVENING PROGRAM LEGISLATION

Senate Bill 328, sponsored by Senator Hardiman would amend the State School Aid Act to provide funding for a proposed "Early Intervening Program". Local school districts or intermediate school districts (ISDs) that receive payments from the Durant v State of Michigan settlement would be permitted to use those funds for the Early Intervening Program. The Program would have to do either or both of the following:

• Monitor individual pupil learning for pupils in kindergarten through third grade and provide specific support or learning strategies to those pupils as early as possible to reduce the need for special education placement. (The Program also would have to include literacy and numeracy supports, sensory motor skill development, behavior supports, instructional consultation for teachers, and the development of a parent/school learning plan.)

• Provide early intervening strategies for pupils in kindergarten through third grade, using school-wide systems of academic and behavioral supports.

This legislation along with Senate Bills 329 & 330 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Education.

INCENTIVE FOR CLEAN CORPORATE CITIZENS

Senate Bill 355, sponsored by Hardiman, would put the Clean Corporate Citizen program into statute and give C3 designees a one-time permit discount. Specifically, a participating company would receive a \$500 discount on the next permit fee it had to pay under the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act as well as the Safe Drinking Water Act. This legislation deals with the Safe Drinking Water Act portion of the effort.

This legislation will help companies that show strong environmental stewardship by giving them real benefits to further their efforts and help make them more competitive. Additionally, it is Senator Hardiman's goal that this package of bills will encourage more businesses to take part in environmentally safe practices and reward the ones that are already doing the right thing.

Senate Bill 355 is part of the Senate Republican's New Economy initiative, which aims to improve the state's economy. The legislation now goes to the full Senate for consideration.

HELPING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIVC VIOLENCE: DONATE A PHONE

Safe Haven Ministries is partnering with Shelter Alliance, sponsored through the Global Refurbishment Corporation for an easy, innovative way to fund raise. Here's how it works: You donate your cell phone to Safe Haven Ministries, we send the phones to Shelter Alliance, and they send us a check in the mail.

If you have an unused cell phone or know someone who does, we have the perfect way for you to dispose of it AND support victims of domestic abuse at the same time.

Top 4 reasons why you should do it:

- It's good for the environment-your phone won't end up in a landfill.
- Phones will be reused in third-world countries.
- Safe Haven can receive up to \$20 per phone!
- Safe Haven ensures that every client who needs one gets a cell phone for 911 use.

If you choose to mail your cell phone, please be sure that you pack it in a sturdy, undamaged corrugated box, and wrap each phone and accessory individually. Wireless cellular or PCS phones only, please. Cordless phones meant for home use, bag phones, two-way radios, and walkie-talkies are not accepted. Smaller, newer phones generate the most funds.

All you have to do is mail or drop off your used cell phone to Safe Haven. If you are interested in setting up a cell phone collection basket at your place of employment or worship please contact

Safe Haven Ministries at - 3501 Lake Eastbrook Blvd. SE, Suite 335, Grand Rapids, MI 49546, (616) 452-6664, or visit www.safehavenministries.com.

Senator Hardiman will have a collection box available with him when he holds District Office Hours. The next District Office Hours will be held on **June 6, 2005 at the Kentwood Library, 4700 Kalamazoo SE in Kentwood, MI 49508**. If you have a cell phone to donate, please stop by district office hours.

Together we can help the victims of domestic violence, one step at a time.

SENATOR HARDIMAN DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS

Office hours will be held on the first Monday of each month from 10:00am – 11:30am throughout the 29th district. On Monday, June 6, Senator Hardiman will be holding monthly district office hours Kentwood Library, 4700 Kalamazoo SE, Kentwood, MI 49508. Be sure to talk to the Senator at these upcoming office hours:

- Monday, July 11, Bills Family Restaurant, 1235 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
- Monday August 1, Mr. Burger Restaurant, 1750 44th Street, Kentwood, MI 49508

Senator Hardiman will hold this time each month so constituents of the 29th district have an opportunity to speak to him about any questions or concerns they may have regarding state issues. You can also contact Senator Hardiman via his toll-free number: 1-866-305-2129 or e-mail: senbhardiman@senate.michigan.gov to set-up a meeting outside of the district hours.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Hardiman Herald is designed to provide residents and organizations with a timely update of Senator Bill Hardiman's activity in Lansing. If you have any questions, please contact Senator Hardiman's office.

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